

SQUEEZINS

"Our squeezin'...is pleasin'"



The Oklahoma Accordion Club Newsletter



February Meeting

The January meeting will be held on Sunday, February 10 at 3:30 pm.

As usual, the meeting will be held at the *Messiah Lutheran Church*. The church is located on the southeast corner of Northwest Expressway and Portland in Oklahoma City.

Everyone is encouraged to come, and everyone is encouraged to perform. If you are shy about playing alone, some of us will play with you.

Members are invited to bring snacks for everyone.

After the individual and group performances, we will have a jam session.

All are welcome to join in the fun!



Prez Sez

Maggie Abel

Oh, guess what! You won't believe this, but a sizable number of members have yet to offer their annual dues (\$20, or \$10 for family member) to our new treasurer, Tom Phillips. Let's put him to work right away, and keep the Club coffers filled to a healthy level!

We plan to have some great jamming before the 3:30 meeting begins this Sunday. So, if you want to arrive at 3:00 to join us, puh-leeeeeeeze do! Barbara Duer sent music to those who expressed an interest, but if you haven't received it, e-mail me, and I'll forward it to you. Mostly easy, accessible, and fun songs!

It's the final month before convention time, and you can feel the excitement. It's the anticipation of camaraderie -- you and your instrument, jamming after the accordion workshops, with all those other nice people from different states -- with their instruments! Not to mention -- or okay, to actually mention -- the throw-together bands you can be a part of, the free breakfast buffet with the accordion greats, workshops on various topics: playing, promotion, analog and digital accordions, the lunch buffets with strolling accordionists, the Friday accordion-hosted dance, accordion vendors with wares we don't see in Oklahoma City, and the Saturday night banquet preceding a concert by accordion-world celebs. After attending one time, you'll find people greeting you like old friends as you walk in the following year.

Those staying back in OKC will feel the benefit from the excitement, stories, advice, and skills that attendees bring home.

I can't do better than to echo Secretary Anne's sentiments and instructions:

Excitement for the National Accordion Conference is growing. Dick will be in charge of both an *Adult Fun Band* and *Kids Fun Band*. You can start practicing now! When you check the *National Accordion Association* website (accordions.com/NAA), you will see links to:

- *NAA* registration and activity schedules
- Discounted hotel registration for *NAA*
- Download the sheet music to be used in the bands.

If you have any questions about the bands, you can e-mail Dick at evrick@att.net, or call him at 405/721-0564. Do NOT make your hotel reservations through the *Hyatt* general reservation system, as the conference gives a discount to *NAA* attendees (including free breakfast and WiFi) through the *NAA* on-line link.



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Mark Your Calendars

Dick Albreski

National Accordion Association Convention will be held March 7-9, 2019 at the *Hyatt Regency Hotel* in Richardson, Texas. Mark your calendars for this great event (much more information to follow). The NAA is presently preparing the list of presenters and performers. Dick Albreski will be conducting the *Youth Band* and the *Adult Fun Band*. All *OAC* members that plan to attend the convention are encouraged to join the *Fun Band*, and start rehearsing weeks in advance. Please sign up now. The *OAC Youth* will also be performing at this convention.

Not Just Oom-PAH Accordion Workshop & Concert will be held April 5-7, 2019, in Austin, Texas. A free concert will be held on April 5, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at the *Central Market* located at 4001 North Lamar Blvd., in Austin, Texas. Jamie Maschler, Rachel Bell, and Karen Axelrod will perform an entertaining array of toe-tapping music. Workshops will be held on April 6 and 7 at the

Lamar Senior Activity Center, 2874 Shoal Crest Ave., Austin, Texas. In addition, there will be folk dance session from 2:00 to 4:00 pm on April 7, followed by a jam session from 4:00 to 5:00 pm, at the *Lamar Senior Activity Center*. Total cost is \$175.00 for accordionists (includes lunch Saturday and Sunday, and all workshop materials), and \$60.00 for non-accordionists (includes lunch Saturday and Sunday). For more details, check online at Vjeverica.com, or call Shirley Johnson at 512/680-0422, or Laura Niland at 210/651-4359.

2019 Coupe Mondiale will be held August 12-18, 2019, in Shenzhen, China. Here's your chance to see and hear the most talented accordionists. China isn't that far away.

Look for more accordion events in future issues of *Squeezins*.



The Accordion — The Perfect Instrument

Dick Albreski

The accordion is so much more than a folk instrument, it can play much more than polkas. A versatile instrument capable of many genres of music, including Classical, Jazz, Folk, Italian, French, German, Russian, Tejano, and much more.

The accordion has the same or more learning benefits musically as other instruments. The uniqueness of the instrument, however, provides aspects that go beyond most other instruments.

What the accordion offers:

- ♣ A unique instrument that is extremely versatile
- ♣ Versatility includes Classical, Jazz, Folk, and ethnic music
- ♣ Capable of playing without accompaniment
- ♣ It can be played as a solo instrument, but also utilized for duets, ensembles, and orchestras
- ♣ A very portable instrument
- ♣ An excellent instrument for teaching the fundamentals of music
- ♣ Formal courses of study have been developed that systematically teach the fundamentals of music using a classical approach

♣ Those fundamentals include the ability to learn and play the melody line, bass, and rhythm simultaneous

♣ The same progression of learning applies to the accordion, just like other instruments. Musical aspects include phrasing, fingering technique, dynamics, chord theory, key signatures, practice techniques, memorization, and all aspects of classical music training,

♣ The course of study introduces musical concepts for each piece of music in a progressive fashion

♣ A wind instrument that teaches breathing through the use of the bellows

♣ The potential to learn the Circle of Fifths, which is the way the standard Stradella accordion left hand is configured

♣ Through bellowing, it is capable of a large dynamic range

♣ Develops a large degree of manual dexterity and strength

♣ Capable of playing complicated classical music requiring sophisticated finger work for both the right and left hand



December Meeting

Anne Lopez

OAC Meeting Minutes 1/13/2019

Our president, Maggie Abel, opened the meeting at 3:30. We had a good start for 2019, with 18 members and 6 guests attending.

Tom Phillips was voted in unanimously to replace resigning Treasurer Sil Lopez. Congratulations, Tom!

Karen West requested that the August concert ads and campaigns, which she has traditionally handled in the past, be reassigned to others.

Ron Shelton recently acquired a Giuletti accordion. He demonstrated the Giuletti's range with:
* "French Waltz"
* "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

On a frigid January day, Dick Albreski warmed us up with:
* "Liechtensteiner Polka"

Dick also showed us how we can modify the way a song sounds with the sax, clarinet, bassoon, etc., reeds. He demonstrated this with:
* "I Love Paris"
* "Peg of My heart"

Dick's student, Rowan Shelton, did an excellent job playing:
* "Sleep Holy Child"
* "Charlie the Chimp"
Keep up the good work, Rowan!

Lois Roth, Barb Duer, and Karen West ("The Trio") lent a nice variety with
* "On Danze a le Villette"
* "Romanze," and
* "Autumn Leaves," accompanied by Bob Mansfield

Lois and Anne jazzed things up with:

- * "Hey Good Lookin'"
- * "Has Anybody Seen My Gal"
- * "Music, Music, Music"

Anne Lopez played a Costa Rican folk song:
* "Amor Atemporada"
* "Theme from the Godfather," a Sicilian medley

Wayne Turgeon entertained us with:
* "Trust in God and Stand in Awe"
* "Wild Irish Rose"

Barb graced us with:
* "Buon Musette"
* "Bicyclette Del Belsize"

Bob Mansfield shared the history of this original composition and played:
* "Tejano"
He also played the beautiful waltz:
* "L'Aime des Poetes"

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• Anne Lopez, OAC Secretary



Happy Birthday Wishes to
the following OAC members:

Eve Albreski, February 2

T. Z. Wright, February 21

Bob Mansfield, February 24

Your birthdate is collected from your OAC membership application, if you have chosen to include it. If your birthdate is not listed on our newsletter birthday page during the year, please contact Karen West at 405/949-0394, or at accordion_karen@yahoo.com.



January Meeting

Diana Richard, Maggie Abel



National Accordion Convention (March 2019)

Review the 2019 Convention Website to see the exciting activities.

www.Accordions.com/naa

2. Register for the convention now (pay later) so we can set the stages, etc.

www.2019-Registration-Form

3. Make your hotel reservations using

www.Hyatt-Regency-North-Dallas.com

4. Pay your "Convention Registration Fee" before February 15, 2019 at www.NAA-Convention-Registration.com

Now that the serious items have been completed, tell the world that you are coming to the *32nd Accordion Convention* by interconnecting with every accordionist using Facebook. Review the 2019 Workshop Descriptions www.NAA-Workshops.com to find the presenters Facebook information.

Then become NAA Facebook friends to make these valuable connections. The Association's new account is

www.Facebook.com/NAA1986.

*Copyright © *12019!* *National Accordion Association, Inc.!, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this e-mail because you play the accordion.

Our mailing address is:

1605 FM 740 North, Forney, Texas 75126!

Sad News

Oklahoma Accordion Club Past President Barbara Duer recently learned that her son, Curtis, died unexpectedly from complications of diabetes. Curtis was the top IT person for his company in Wichita, and had received many letters of commendation for his work.

Barbara said, "Curtis was so beloved by anyone who knew him. Coworkers called him a gentle soul. And he is missed." Services were held last week in Wichita.





Oklahoma Accordion Club Membership Form

Name _____ Date _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone (____) _____ Birthday (mm/dd) ____/____ (optional)

Newsletter

I prefer to receive the monthly newsletter, the OKLAHOMA SQUEEZINS, by:

E-mail at address (above) or at _____

Conventional post

Membership Dues

The OAC membership year runs from January through December. Membership cost is prorated quarterly for new members.

Primary Membership is \$20.00 per year per individual.

Family Membership is \$10.00 per year for each additional family member when accompanied by a Primary Membership.

Lifetime Membership is a one-time fee of \$300.00.

Youth Membership is complimentary for accordion-playing youth through age 18.

Your Status (please check all that apply):

Professional Semi-Professional Amateur Student

Associate Hobby Teacher Repairman/Repairwoman

Other (specify) _____

Make checks payable to: Oklahoma Accordion Club

Mail your membership dues TODAY to:

**Oklahoma Accordion Club
c/o 7109 NW 102nd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73162**



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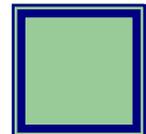


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7-07

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